

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 01700 090801Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 OPIC-06 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15
TRSE-00 XMB-04 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05
SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 /096 W
-----028397 092217Z /72

R 071705Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 265
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS TUNIS 1700

DEPT PASS USDA AND OPIC

RABAT FOR ABATT KUHL

E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: EPAP EINV IR TS
SUBJ: TUNISIAN/IRANIAN PROJECT TO BUILD OLIVE OIL
PLANT FOR EXPORT

REF: TUNIS A-149

1. AGREEMENT ON JOINT / IRANIAN PROJECT TO
BUILD PLANT TO EXTRACT AND REFINE OLIVE OIL IN TUNISIA
WAS SIGNED IN TEHRAN ON MARCH 1. COST OF PROJECT
ESTIMATED AT \$5 MILLION. AS REPORTED IN TUNIS NEWS-
PAPERS THIS WEEK, REFINERY INITIALLY TO PRODUCE 50
TONS OF OLIVE OIL DAILY, MOST OF WHICH TO BE EXPOR-
TED TO IRAN. PRODUCTION FIGURE EXPECTED TO DOUBLE
EVENTUALLY.

2. AGREEMENT ON PLANT-- TO BE BUILT UNDER THE 1972
LAW FOR EXPORT INDUSTRIES--SIGNED FOR TUNISIA BY
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OILS OFFICE PRESIDENT FREJ JABBES AND FOR IRAN BY
OLIVE OIL CONTROL CENTER DIRECTOR AMIR SALAH. IRANIAN
DELEGATION WILL VISIT TUNIS NEXT MONTH TO DIS-
CUSS FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL DETAILS OF PROJECT, FIRST
DISCUSSED BY JABBES AND TUNISIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK PRESIDENT
HABIB BOURGUIBA JR. WITH IRANIAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE PRESIDENT TAJAR ZIA DURING TUNISIANS'

DECEMBER 1977 VISIT TO TEHRAN. (OILS OFFICE TELLS US THAT INDICATED CAPACITY AND PROJECT COST ARE NOMINAL CRITERIA, WITH MOST DETAILS STILL TO BE DETERMINED.)

3. UNTIL NOW IRAN HAS NOT BEEN DIRECT IMPORTER OF TUNISIAN OLIVE OIL, BUT TUNISIA HAS BEEN URGENTLY LOOKING FOR NEW MARKETS AS ANSWER TO CHRONIC SLUMP IN COUNTRY'S OLIVE OIL FOREIGN SALES. EXPORTS TO IRAN COULD PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED OUTLET FOR TUNISIAN PRODUCT. (PRODUCTION OF TUNISIAN OLIVE OIL AMOUNTED TO ABOUT 130,000 TONS FOR THE 1977-78 SEASON. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION IS ABOUT 70,000 TONS/ANNUALLY, LEAVING ABOUT 100,000 TONS OF OIL FROM THE CURRENT AND PREVIOUS SEASONS TO BE STOCKED OR EXPORTED.)
MULCAHY

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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